

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 01850 251853Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DLOS-06 SAL-01 OES-06 INT-05 ACDA-07
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3117
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 3182
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 01850

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EED, UR, GE, PO, EFIS, PLOS
SUBJECT: EC FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS WITH EAST EUROPEANS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1661

1. THE FIRST ROUND OF EC-POLISH FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS
WERE HELD IN BRUSSELS FEBRUARY 23 AND 24. POLAND WAS
REPRESENTED BY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND MARITIME
ECONOMY OLSZEWSKI AND THE EC BY UK SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TOMLINSON (FOR THE EC COUNCIL) AND
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL EAMON GALLAGHER (FOR THE EC
COMMISSION). NEGOTIATIONS ARE TO RESUME MARCH 16.
AFTER THE INITIAL FORMALITIES, THE COUNCIL WAS REPRE-
SENTED BY UK ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS SCOTT WHILE RAYMOND SIMMONET, A MIDDLE-LEVEL
OFFICIAL IN THE COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE GENERAL
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 01850 251853Z

FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WAS THE PRINCIPAL NEGOTIATOR
ON THE COMMUNITY SIDE. THIS RELATIVE DOWNGRADING
OF THE EC DELGATION UNDERSCORED THE COMMUNITY'S
POSITION THAT, SINCE POLAND CANNOT OFFER EFFECTIVE
RECIPROCITY, THE EC WAS ESSENTIALLY NEGOTIATING A
FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR THE ORDERLY AND
GRADUAL PHASE-OUT OF ALL POLISH FISHING IN THE NEW

200-MILE FISHING ZONES OF THE MEMBER STATES.

2. THE EC GAVE THE POLES THE TEXT OF THE BASIC ELEMENTS DEALING STRICTLY WITH FISHERY MATTERS TO BE COVERED IN THE FIRST SIX ARTICLES OF A POSSIBLE AGREEMENT. THESE WERE VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO THE TEXT GIVEN THE USSR. UNLIKE THE SOVIET DELEGATION WHICH TOOK THE TEXT BACK TO MOSCOW FOR FURTHER STUDY, THE POLES SUBMITTED WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THE EC DRAFTS BEFORE DEPARTING. THESE PRIMARILY STRESSED POLAND'S TRADITIONAL RELIANCE ON FISHING IN EC WATERS TO MEET ITS FOOD NEEDS AND URGED A MORE FORTHCOMING EC POSITION ACCORDING TO A DANISH PERM DEL OFFICIAL. THE EC WAS VERY IMPRESSED, HOWEVER, BY THE FORTHCOMINGNESS OF THE POLISH DELEGATION AND ITS APPARENT EAGERNESS TO REACH AN EARLY AGREEMENT.

3. COMMISSION SOURCES NOTED THAT, AS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR, THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION WITH THE POLES OF THE AREA OF APPLICABILITY ISSUE ("BERLIN CLAUSE"). LIKEWISE, OUR COMMISSION SOURCES DOUBT THAT THE "AREA OF APPLICATION" QUESTION WILL COME UP DURING THE SECOND ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR WHICH WILL BEGIN FEBRUARY 28. THEY ANTICIPATE THAT INITIALLY TALKS WILL FOCUS ON THE SOVIET REACTION TO THE DRAFT ELEMENTS FOR AN AGREEMENT PROVIDED EARLIER BY THE EC. DEPENDING UPON THIS REACTION, THE EC SIDE WILL BE PREPARED TO GIVE THE SOVIETS ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS DEALING ONLY WITH FISHERY MATTERS. COMMISSION SOURCES ALSO NOTED THAT, IN CONTRAST

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 EC BRU 01850 251853Z

TO THE POSSIBLE POLISH AND GDR AGREEMENTS, THE EC IS SEEKING A RECIPROCAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT WITH THE USSR PROVIDING FOR FISHERY BY BOTH SIDES IN EACH OTHER'S WATERS.
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